

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the section under the heading SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION,
beginning at page 2, line 17, please amend the paragraph as follows:

a housing, wherein the housing accommodates a laser source, a beam
~~polarization~~ deflection mechanism having a first and a second plane mirrors, which
enable a beam emitted from the laser source to be reflected so that the beam travels in
the direction almost parallel to the beam emitted from the laser source, a beam
expander for converting the beam to a parallel beam having a larger cross sectional
area, and an objective lens, through which the parallel beam is reduced and applied to
the surface of a sample;

In the section under the heading DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION,
beginning at page 4, line 5, please amend the paragraph as follows:

Further, the first and second plane mirrors 4a and 4b are coupled to a beam
~~polarization~~ deflection mechanism 40a and 40b, respectively, which are driven by a
motor, etc. to change the angle of the plane mirrors. Furthermore, they are connected to
a beam polarization mechanism control part 41 for controlling their angles. Moreover,
the beam polarization mechanism control part 41 is coupled to a manual operation
input part 42, through which the polarization angle can be manually controlled.